Study on conversion of inferior grade coal into oil

294. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken detailed study of the possibility of conversion of inferior grade coal into oil and other byproducts;

(b) whether Government have prepared any viable project report in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action Government propose to further take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The possibility of setting up of coal liquefaction plant based on high ash Indian coal is being ascertained.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (b) above.

Assessment of losses being sustained by CIL

295. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any authoritative assessment regarding losses being sustained by the Coal India Ltd. has been made during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the reasons for the losses have been identified and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken' to check the losses and to enable the Company to show a turnaround?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Coal India Limited individually has registered profits during the last